de la Guerra, Sheila Public Comment

From: Lisa Sloan <lsloan728@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 4:44 PM

To: Williams, Das; Nelson, Bob; Hart, Gregg; Lavagnino, Steve; sbcob; Hartmann, Joan

Subject: BOS Hearing Item A-12 Public Comment

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Dear Honorable Chair Nelson and Board of Supervisors,

It has come to my attention that Public Health Department employee Elrawd MacLearn has submitted his religious exemption from the current vaccine mandate. How will you accommodate his religious exemption under Title 7 of the Civil Rights Act of the United States? Giving him leave without pay is not a reasonable accommodation.

Besides, in general, the mandates are not lawful under federal law Title 42, given that no medical treatment funded by the federal government can be required of anyone who objects to the treatment. For your convenience, this section is quoted, as follows:

42 U.S. Code § 247b - Project grants for preventive health services

(g)Use of grant funds; mandatory treatment prohibited

(1)Nothing in this section shall limit or otherwise restrict the use of funds which are granted to a State or to an agency or a political subdivision of a State under provisions of Federal law (other than this section) and which are for the conduct of preventive health service programs from being used in connection with programs assisted through grants under subsection (a).

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any State or any agency or political subdivision of a State to have a preventive health service program which would require any person, who objects to any treatment provided under such a program, to be treated or to have any child or ward treated under such program.

As a taxpayer living in the County of Santa Barbara, I am concerned that the actions of the Public Health Department are putting our local government at risk of liability and lawsuits, and the cost of any resulting court awards will have to be borne by constituents, such as myself. Please reconsider what you consider a reasonable accommodation.

Furthermore, the mandates themselves are a violation of multiple laws as well as the constitution, and they need to end. Healthy people do not transmit disease. Let people stay home if they are sick, but forcing them to take a medical treatment in order to work, or shop, or attend a gathering needs to stop.

Sincerely,

Lisa Sloan

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P.S. Mr. MacLearn gave me his permission to be mentioned in this comment.